

Appl. No.: 10/612,258
Reply to Office Action of: August 31, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, 7 and 12-20 stand rejected and claims 2-5 and 8-11 are objected to. The following remarks are addressed to the Office Action dated August 31, 2004.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 5 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards the invention. Specifically, the Examiner cited an inconsistency in claim 5 and a lack of antecedent basis in claim 20. Accordingly, claim 5 has been amended to recite that the outer conductor surrounds the cable outer conductor consistent with claim 4, and claim 20 has been amended in paragraph (c) to remove the first reference to the shield housing. Rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is therefore respectfully overcome. Reconsideration is requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b)

Claims 1, 6, 7, 12-16, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mitani (US Patent No. 5,263,877). Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 2 and is therefore now in condition for allowance. Those claims that depend from claim 1, namely 3-18 are also therefore in condition for allowance.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-5 and 8-11. Claim 2 has been cancelled and its limitations added to claim 1, therefore placing claims 1-18 in condition for allowance. Claim 19 has been similarly amended to include a

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recitation of a sleeve which reaches approximately form fittingly around the outer conductor in a connection region as was recited in allowable claim 2. Claim 19 is therefore believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 20 has been amended both to address the rejections under § 112 and also to add further limitations to paragraph (d) including the step of applying and crimping a sleeve around the outer conductor. The addition of this language is believed to place this claim in condition of allowance because Mitani or the references of record do not disclose application of the sleeve being crimped around the outer conductor in a connection region.

Considering the amendments and arguments presented here, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and passage thereof to issue is respectfully requested. Please charge any additional requisite fees relating to this amendment and response to Deposit Account No. 50-1581.

Respectfully submitted,



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